

Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks

INSIDE TRACKS

The Newsletter of Region One

Volume 10, Number 2

Summer 2000

Anglers Hosted For Special Fishing Day

On June 14, more than 50 anglers with disabilities were treated to a morning of fishing on Flathead Lake by the Montana Charterboat Association and volunteer boat operators.

The 7th annual Fishing Without Barriers Day attracted anglers from the Flathead Valley, north to Eureka, and south to Missoula. The anglers

braved gusty winds and waves as high as five feet. About 25 lake trout ranging from 16-28 inches were landed. At noon, everyone took part in a fish fry and barbecue, and shared stories about their fishing adventures.

Thanks are in order for everyone who participated. Charterboat cap-

tains included: Jim Landwehr, **Glacier Fishing Charters**; Jerry Landskron, **Woods Bay Charters**; Shorty Goggins, Cal Mischke, Norm Lebel, **A-Able Fishing Charters**; Dusty Bagley, **Bagley Guide Service**; Karl Mann, **Montana Experience Outfitters**; Jeff Rach, **Flathead Lake Charters**.

Private boat operators included: Frank Cooley, Dan Hartwell, Guy Laurendeau, Robert Meek, Tim Shelton, Jim Vashro, Daryle Handy.

Special thanks go out to Barry Schrammeck, owner of **Woods Bay Marina**, where the event was held. Business sponsors included: Fun Beverage, Tidymans, Smiths, Super 1 Foods, Pepsi, Coca Cola, and Eddies Bread.

FWP Crossing the Barriers Com-
(Cont. on Page 2)

YOUNG ANGLERS

Matt Sather, Rachel Osborn, and Justin Jones show off the lake trout they caught on Dusty Bagley's boat. Bagley is owner of Bagley Guide Service.



CATCH TO BE PROUD OF. Karl Mann (left) of Montana Experience Outfitters and angler Brian Blaylock are proud of the lake trout Blaylock caught, the largest fish of the day.

FISH AND MORE FISH. Jeff Rach of Flathead Lake Charters and his anglers caught a number of lake trout.



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Special Fishing Day

(Cont. from Page 1)

mittee members who helped organize the food and arrangements included: Jerry Howard, Sue McDonald, Pat Thomas, Bob and Wanda Worley, and Harry Grove. Committee members Tim, Corinna, and Ben Brubaker of God's

Country Taxidermy donated a fish mounting service for the angler who caught the largest lake trout.



FISH FRY. (Photo above.) The anglers and helpers enjoy the fish they caught. The 22 lake trout that were filleted and deep-fat fried disappeared quickly. **GREAT CATCH!** Jim Landwehr (right) of Glacier Fishing Charters helped an angler land this nice lake trout. **WILD WAVES.** Shorty Goggins of A-Able Fishing Charters pilots his boat through the rough waters near Woods Bay. Shorty's larger boat makes it possible to host more anglers than would otherwise be possible.



Hunter Educ.

At the June 24 Hunter Education Instructors workshop a number of instructors were recognized for outstanding service to the program. Three in-

Hunter Educ. Instructor Awards

35-YEAR INSTRUCTORS

Leonard Howke, Richard Ulery

30-YEAR INSTRUCTORS

Donald Garner, Paul Murphy

25-YEAR INSTRUCTOR

Ray Aylesworth

10-YEAR INSTRUCTORS

Dan Atkinson, David Ortley, Kenny Parks, Charles Stafford, William Witts, Michael Munro, Brian Dreisbach

5-YEAR INSTRUCTORS

Temple Cranney, Stanley Downen, Judy Goodwin, Sam Oliver, Ron Roundy, Judy Sommers, Philip Spranger, Eddy Cole, Teresa Cole, Challis Crismore, James Pierce, Tressa Schutter, Richard Doughty, Harold Hudson

10-YEAR BOW INSTRUCTOR

Paul Clark

5-YEAR BOW INSTRUCTORS

Tim Bartholomew, Melvin Roberts, Timothy Thier

Flathead Lake/River Advisory Committee Completes Work

The Flathead Lake and River Fisheries Advisory Committee completed its work last month to produce draft options for managing fisheries in the lake and upper river system.

The Committee met six times from February through June. They heard from a variety of scientists and biologists about the fisheries situation in the Flathead, and studied reams of reports. Six resource staff from the state and tribes worked with the committee. The management options they produced can be found in the Flathead Lake and Upper River Fisheries Management Planning Document, available from FWP (752-5501) or the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes (CSKT; 676-2700). The document is also available on the FWP Website at fwp.state.mt.us. Comments on the draft will be accepted through August 4.

The Committee agreed on management of native fish as a priority in the upper river, education steps, research actions, more fishing access on Flathead Lake, adaptive management features, and other strategies for managing the fisheries. Four options address different approaches to managing the fish populations in the lake. They range from current management direction to more aggressive

strategies to reduce non-native lake trout.

The committee was recognized for an outstanding job of working together on a difficult project. Thanks to all the committee members!



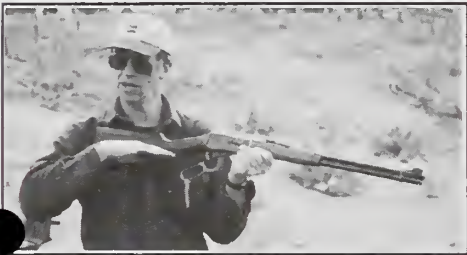
THE FLATHEAD LAKE AND RIVER FISHERIES ADVISORY COMMITTEE. Front Row, left to right: Facilitator Virginia Tribe, Jim Landwehr, Cindy Foster, Patty Stevens, George Hover, Dan Paschke. Second Row, l-r: Philip Catalfomo, Ron Mohn, Pat Lefthand Jr., Tom McDonald. Back row: Darryl Clairmont, Arlen Roll, Tom Branson.

Instructors Recognized for Service at Workshop

structors have logged a total of 100 years in the program. Paul Murphy (Columbia Falls), Don Garner (Kalispell), and Leonard Howke (Whitefish) have each taught more than 30 years. Other instructors were recognized for various years of service (see sidebar).



POINTING THE WAY. Hunter Education Instructor Don Bothwell presented a short compass and orienteering course for the instructors.



RIFLE ACTION. Hunter Education Instructor Dale Sommerfield explains the operation of the lever action firearm.

At the workshop/campout, instructors took part in a number of training exercises. Instructors learned about tree stand techniques, bow equipment, compass, firearms handling and use, and black powder.

BOWHUNTER Education Instructor Ben Rossetto (right photo) describes the finer points of tree stand safety.



INSTRUCTORS in photo above handled and fired a variety of firearms, including black powder.

EQUIPMENT EXPERTISE. Bowhunter Education Instructor Ron Clarke demonstrates how to teach the function of archery equipment.



More than 200 Hunter and Bowhunter Education Instructors serve in northwest Montana. More instructors are needed. Anyone interested in becoming a Hunter or Bowhunter Education Instructor can contact your local lead instructor, game warden, or FWP.



100 YEARS: Paul Murphy (left), Don Garner, and Leonard Howke, have a century of combined service in teaching Hunter Education.

Flathead Reservation Fish and Wildlife Board Will Make Recommendation on Flathead Fisheries Plan

The Flathead Reservation Fish and Wildlife Board will work with FWP and CSKT to arrive at a recommendation for managing fisheries in Flathead Lake and the upper Flathead River.

The Board will consider a final draft plan at their September meeting, which will be open to the public. They will recommend a plan to the FWP Commission and the CSKT Tribal Council.

The state and tribes have a solid history of working together. The State/Tribal Fish and Wildlife Agreement was signed in 1990, and renewed in 1994 and 1998. The Flathead Reservation Fish and Wildlife Board includes technical and policy people from both entities and has worked well in setting joint fishing regulations.

The final plan will be based on the Advisory Committee work, public comments at a series of open houses, written comment, and work by FWP/CSKT biologists and managers. When adopted by the State and Tribes, the plan will guide fisheries management on Flathead Lake and the river upstream of the lake for the next 10 years.

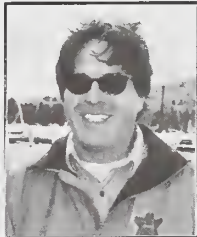
Members of the Flathead Reservation Fish and Wildlife Board are appointed by the Governor and the Tribal Chairman:



Ralph Goode, Polson, Chairman



Ray Aylesworth, Ronan



Terry Tanner, Ronan



Rod Johnson, Polson
Not pictured: Fred Matt



Bob Lucas, Missoula



David Wiseman, USFWS, Moise

Boating Rules Released for Public Comment

The Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks Commission has adopted tentative boating rules which will apply to all public lakes and reservoirs (any lake with legal public access) in western Montana (FWP Regions 1 and 2). The new tentative rules include:

- **No-Wake Distance From Shore:** The tentative rule states that all watercraft must maintain no-wake speeds within 200 feet of the shoreline of all lakes.
- **No-Wake on Lakes Less Than 35 acres:** The rule states that all watercraft must maintain no-wake speeds on all lakes 35 acres or less.

Exceptions include: (a) personal watercraft which must maintain a certain minimum operating speed may travel at that speed following the most direct route through the no-wake zone to shore, and (b) motorized watercraft towing a water skier from or to a dock or the shore.

These proposed rules help address public safety, noise, social conflicts, shoreline erosion, and waterfowl nesting issues. In releasing these rules, the Commission is following the expanded authority given to FWP by the Legislature to resolve water-based recreation conflicts.

The FWP Commission adopted these tentative rules as a result of extensive public comments.

"The Commission's tentative rules address the most frequently expressed public concerns," says FWP Region One Supervisor Dan Vincent. "The Commission worked

hard to address the specific problems identified with as little regulation as possible."

Vincent said that while there are several hundred lakes in western Montana less than 35 acres in size, most of the lake surface acres will be unaffected by the rule. In northwest Montana, 214,282 surface acres (98%) are found in lakes greater than 35 acres, while only 4,898 acres (2%) are found in lakes less than 35 acres.

The Commission has scheduled public hearings to take comment on the tentative rules. **The hearings are preceded by a one-hour open house where information will be available.** The formal hearings are scheduled as follows:

Missoula: Thursday, August 3, 6-8:30 p.m.,
FWP Headquarters, 3201 Spurgin Road

Libby: Tuesday, August 8, 7-10 p.m., First National Bank Building, 504 Mineral Avenue

Plains: Tuesday, August 8, 7-10 p.m., DNRC Building, 124 Airport Road

Kalispell: Saturday, August 12, 9 a.m.-noon,
FWP Headquarters, 490 North Meridian Road

To comment on the proposed rules, contact or send comments by August 22 to FWP at one of the following addresses: FWP Region One, 490 North Meridian Road, Kalispell, MT 59901; Ph: 406-755-5501; FWP Region Two, 3201 Spurgin Road, Missoula, MT 59804; Ph: 406-542-5500.

INSIDE TRACKS is published by Region One



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